



## ROYAL HUTT RIVER ARMY



### AFTER ACTION REPORT

**UNIT:**

1st North American Royal Guards  
Royal Hutt River Artillery  
Royal School of Artillery

**CONTACT OFFICER:**

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**UNIT REPRESENTATIVES PARTICIPATING:**

Colonel William B. Speir, Jr.

**ACTIVITY:**

United States Army Field Artillery Association  
Annual Instructor Conference and Live Fire Event.

**ACTIVITY DATE:**

20-25 May 2009

**ACTIVITY DETAILS:**

The Chief of the Royal Hutt River Artillery (and Commander of the Royal School of Artillery) represented the Principality and the RHRA at the Annual Conference of the Instructor Cadre of the Loyal Train of Artillery Chapter of the United States Army Field Artillery Association (USFAA) Artillery School at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma over the Memorial Day weekend. The Instructor Conference, held in conjunction with the Live Fire Artillery Competition, is an annual event that includes both an instructors training course as well as a scored competition for firing solid shot and canister shot from 19<sup>th</sup> century patterned muzzle-loading cannons.

The Chief of the Royal Hutt River Artillery is one of the Senior Safety Instructors of the USFAA Instructor Cadre and is the author of the muzzle-loading artillery manuals used by the USFAA Artillery Schools around the country. Several active members of the United States Army were on hand for the Live Fire Competition practice rounds, and an impromptu training school was pulled together to give these soldiers a chance to live fire muzzle-loading cannons themselves (see photos below). The Chief of the Royal Hutt River Artillery participated as one of the three instructors and safety officers for this school. The soldiers learned a great deal about muzzle-loading artillery and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

The Chief of the Royal Hutt River Artillery had several opportunities during the school and the competition to raise awareness about the Principality and the RHRA, and the information was well received.

The Chief of the Royal Hutt River Artillery was recognized at a special ceremony on Saturday night for his contributions to the USFAA – especially the production of the training manuals that are currently in use by the artillery school. The Commanding General of the United States Field Artillery inducted Colonel Speir into the Honourable Order of St. Barbara, who is the Patron Saint of Artillerists. Receipt of this award is typically limited to active, serving members of the United States Military, and it is very rare that anyone outside of the United States Military is ever presented with this award. The Chief of the

Royal Hutt River Artillery was deeply humbled for the recognition, which he shared with the RHRA and the Principality at the ceremony.

The certificate presented to Colonel Speir reads as follows:

*TO ALL FIELD ARTILLERYMEN WHEREVER YE MAY BE*

*Greetings! Know ye that there appeared before a most arduous and select committee comprised of highly esteemed and proven Field Artillerists a likely candidate for the Honourable Order of Saint Barbara.*

*BE IT REMEMBERED: That the hereinafter mentioned individual has been inspected and passed on by Ourselves and Our Loyal Staff and*

*BE IT KNOWN: By all ye Field Artillerymen who may be honored by this individual's presence that*

*WILLIAM B. SPEIR, JR.*

*having been tried and found to be worthy to be numbered as one of our trusty members, has been gathered into our fold and duly initiated into the solemn mysteries of this traditional brotherhood of Stonehurlers, Archers, Catapulters, Rocketeers, and Gunners.*

*BE IT FUTHER UNDERSTOOD: That we hereby confer upon this individual the shield of Saint Barbara emblazoned above and enjoin all Field Artillerymen henceforth to show due honor and respect whenever this individual may enter their midst.*

*Given under our hand this 20<sup>th</sup> day of May 2009,*

*Peter M. Vangjel*

*Major General, U.S. Army*

*Commandant*

**ACTIVITY PURPOSE:**

Participating in educational activities is a core function of the Royal Hutt River Artillery and the Royal School of Artillery. By participating as a Senior Safety Instructor and by providing educational materials that can be used by a branch of the United States Army, we build closer ties with this military organization and advance our goals of the recognition of the RHRA and the Principality.

**ACTIVITY RESULTS:**

The public recognition of the Royal School of Artillery's efforts in producing the Artillery Manuals raised the awareness of many of the event participants about the Principality and the RHRA. The event also provided many opportunities to discuss the Principality and the RHRA and our mission in the United States.

**REQUIRED/PLANNED FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITY:**

None at this time.



U.S. Army Soldiers observing the training.



Learning about how the guns work.



Teaching the Drill



Answering questions about the Drill



Sighting in the target



Fire! They just missed the target.

## THE PRINCIPALITY OF HUTT RIVER



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## *The Honorable Order of Saint Barbara*

*BE IT REMEMBERED: That the hereinafter mentioned individual has been inspected and passed on by Ourselves and Our Loyal Staff and*

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**WILLIAM B. SPEIR, JR.**



*having been tried and found worthy to be numbered as one of our trusty members, has been gathered to our fold and duly initiated into the solemn mysteries of this traditional brotherhood of Stoneburlers, Archers, Catapulters, Rocketeers and Gunners.*

*BE IT FURTHER UNDERSTOOD: That we hereby confer upon this individual the shield of Saint Barbara emblazoned above and enjoy all Field Artillerymen henceforth to show due honor and respect whenever this individual may enter their midst.*



*Given under our hand  
this  
30th day of May  
2009*

*Peter M. Vangjel*  
PETER M. VANGJEL  
MAJOR GENERAL, U. S. ARMY  
COMMANDANT

Colonel Speir's Certificate

**THE PRINCIPALITY OF HUTT RIVER**